

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:620

ANSWERED ON:16.08.2007

BID OF NEW EXPLORATION LICENSING POLICY NELP

Gangwar Shri Santosh Kumar

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the major International companies are not participating in fresh bid called by NELP;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard to attract these companies?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a)to(c):- The Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas have not invited participation in the fresh round of bidding under New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) as the Seventh round of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP-VII) is yet to be launched. However, in the last NELP bidding round viz. NELP-VI the response of the International companies was very encouraging. A total of 36 foreign companies and 32 National companies participated in that bidding round.